

# Serving Tillamook Since 1935



## Roby's Furniture and Appliances serving the community since 1950

Since 1950 Roby's Furniture and Appliances in Tillamook has been "serving the people who call the coast home and loving every minute of it" according to Presi-

dent Andrea Langeliers, a third generation coowner. Born and raised in Tillamook, Andrea and her brother Ryan have carried on the family business plus added quite an impressive mini-chain of furniture and appliances stores. "We are officially the largest furniture and appliances store in Oregon if you can believe that", says co-owner Ryan Lewis.

With the growth Roby's has experienced for the past 20 years, it is no question that roots run deep in Tillamook as well as their involvement in the communities they serve. Ryan, an assistant coach for Tillamook Football helped facilitate taking the team to State this year. Meanwhile Andrea is an assistant head volleyball coach in Newport where she has lived since 2002.

"Our parents have taught us that service is at the heart of everything we do. From how we run our business, to how we raise our families, leading with servanthood is what we do, says Ryan Lewis.

They really have put that "service" mentality into play with their annual Serve Day. They close their stores for the last Wednesday of the month of January, pay their team members

> for their time and go out into the community and do a project. This year the Tillamook store team members will be working at the Tillamook Forestry Center. All Roby's locations will be closed on Wednesday

> > Roby's commitment to serving their communities hasn't gone unnoticed by others. Over the past few years Roby's was a finalist

January 25th.

Andrea and Ryan at OBA awards. in Oregon

State University's Austin Family Business award as well as receiving awards Headlight for excellence Herald from their peers Place W in the industry. They were also the recipients of the HOME Oregon Bankers As-**FURNISHINGS/** sociation Commu-DECOR

> "What has made us really shine is our people. It has been one of my career pleasures to develop and grow alongside my leadership team". Leading that team is appliance buyer Eric Bennet who

nity Service award.





Jeni Lewis, Ryan Lewis, Andrea Langeliers, Kyle Langeliers at OSU family business awards.

has worked at Roby's for 24 years. We also have Natalie Rieger who is taking a new position as our furniture buyer", says Andrea. "And both are graduates of Tillamook High"!

Always with an open mind towards growth outside of Tillamook it should be of no surprise to learn they are now building a new store in Warrenton Oregon. Kyle Langeliers (Andrea's husband) is leading that project with an estimated completion of June 2024. Roby's currently has 6



Newport Volleyball

locations: Tillamook, Lincoln City, Newport, Florence, McMinnville and Astoria. Check out their website at www.robysfurniture.com

and follow them on Instagram! Their videos have got a lot of attention from the public with over 15,000 followers. H21478

## For crabs, clams, oysters, and local fish, head over to The Spot

Will Lohre Country Media

"I got kidnapped into the seafood business in 1987 by my sister," Kelly Barnett.

Kelly Barnett, who owns The Spot seafood market in Garibaldi, Oregon, thought he was in for a lovely weekend on the coast in 1987, but at 5 a.m., he was woken up for work and has been in the seafood business ever since. Barnett has seen all different parts of the industry in his 36 years of work.

"I've done just about everything in seafood. From cleaning the bottom of the boat out after it's been unloaded to being plant manager and overseeing about 150 employees," Barnett said. "Then I departed from working for other people in 2005 and started my own business of filleting fish, something that my dad did, and my sister and my dad and other people taught me how to do it, and I just ended up being the founder and half owner of the Garibaldi Cannery until 2013, when I sold that, and my wife and I bought our current location; The Spot, in 2013. And we turned it from an old charter office into a seafood destination."

The Spot offers freshcaught fish, clams, oysters, and crab. Barnett gets out to catch fish when he can or when more fish is needed. They began supplying their catches to the store about six years ago when they acquired two fishing boats.

"I got tired of being asked if I was the one who caught all the fish I was selling and decided, 'Well, I guess I can start telling them yes,'" Barnett said.

While they don't cook the seafood, The Spot is a "fresh seafood store." They offer some smoked seafood, and the smoker is by Barnett's design. The Spot offers cooked crabs for people and provides the service of filleting fish for customers who have caught fish.

Since its founding, Barnett said The Spot is a repeat destination for people out of state and around the Garibaldi area. Since arriving over 50 years ago, Barnett has become heavily involved in the community.

"I'm pretty involved in the community, I'm currently the treasurer of the Garibaldi Lions' Club, but I've been the president of the Lions' Club. I'm involved in the Tillamook Masonic Lodge. I've been Port Commissioner for the Port of Garibaldi for, I think, 11 years now," Barnett said.

According to Barnett, since he moved to Garibaldi in 1970, before getting involved in the seafood business, he has always felt that Garibaldi is his home. For folks who need anything seafood, Barnett and The Spot should be a destination when passing through.

"If you can meet the guy who catches the fish, I'm right there," Barnett said. "I enjoy it; I love what I do. I love feeding people, as well as taking care of their catch, making them happy."



The Spot storefront at 304 Mooring Basin Drive, Garibaldi, OR



Kelly Barnett holds up a fresh catch on the dock in Garibaldi, Oregon.

## KING REALTY

King Realty was established here in Tillamook in 1956 by W. Clent King. Marilyn Hankins, our current principal broker, began working for King Realty in 1988 and purchased the company in 2005. The realtors here at King Realty are locals who know the area well and love to serve this beautiful community. Call us today to help you find your perfect home or to list your house!



#### **MARILYN HANKINS**

Marilyn has worked at King Realty for over 334 years. Marilyn was born and raised on a dairy farm right here in Tillamook. In her free time she loves visiting her cabin at Paulina Lake with her husband & family. She is dedicated to her family, work, and the Tillamook community. Her passion is finding the perfect property for each and every client.

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#### **PATTI TIPPETT**

Patti has been with King Realty for 15 years. She is a loyal, highly respected, and reliable top producer who is knowledgeable about Tillamook County and the surrounding areas. Whether buying or selling residential, farms, vacant land, or commercial properties, she works hand in hand with clients and will be with you every step of the way!

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#### **JOEY & MELANIE LUCAS**

Joey and Melanie are a husband and wife team that have worked for King Realty for over 12 years. They recently obtained their principal broker licenses and enjoy working alongside Marilyn, Melanie's mother. They love all that Tillamook has to offer for country living and make the most of each day with adventures such as biking, jogging, kayaking, boating, or hiking.

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DYLAN LANDOLT Dylan was born and raised in Tillamook. His family runs

a large dairy farm that Dylan has helped with most of his life. Family businesses are important to Dylan and he is excited making new connections in the community with real estate sales while working with his grandma, Marilyn Hankins (owner and principal broker of King Realty). Dylan's favorite hobby is racing dirt bikes, which keeps him busy during his off time on weekends. Should you be looking for a young, knowledgeable realtor who is familiar with many aspects of Tillamook County, drop by King Realty or give Dylan a call!

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Interior of Moxie Fair Trade

Moxie Store Front and its iconic purple bench on 387 Laneda Ave.

**Moxie Fair Trade offers ethical fashion for Manzanita** 

#### Will Lohre Country Media

Moxie Fair Trade is about to celebrate its 18th birthday this Valentine's Day, and it marks another landmark for a business that has carved out a niche in Manzanita. **Owner Sarah Simmons** has built the company from the ground up and stayed true to her goals of offering fashionable and ethically made products at the boutique.

In 2005, Sarah Simmons co-opened It's Only Fair with Ginger Edwards. The store opened when Simmons' first child was six months old. In 2009,

Simmons bought out her partner's share and reopened at the current location under the store's name, Moxie Fair Trade, when her second child was about ten months old. Simmons often jokes that Moxie is "both her other child and her financial partner."

"And now, Moxie is officially becoming an adult, hitting 18 on Valentine's Day this year," Simmons said.

While the business is almost 20 years old, Moxie has always been committed to equitable and ethical fair trade practices.

"Moxie is a fair trade store which means that the clothing, jewelry and home goods that they sell are part of equitable global trading partnerships in which artists are paid living wages, women are paid equal to men, children are protected from forced labor, and environmental safeties are upheld to protect the artisans and the earth," Simmons said. "Fair trade values people and the planet over profits, and strives to ensure that workers overseas are protected from human rights violations."

Currently, Moxie works with hundreds of wom-

en's cooperatives, nonprofits, and small villagebased groups in about 40 countries. Simmons said that members of the Moxie team had visited the artisans they work with in Cambodia, Ghana, Nepal, and India. Now that travel restrictions have eased, Simmons is excited to have more of these "learning trips." Many of the vendors that Moxie works with address issues in their countries.

"Many of the vendors and groups Moxie works with have secondary missions which range from women's literacy training, to increasing safety in the village workspaces, to

pulling women out of human trafficking, including trauma therapy and job retraining when possible," Simmons said.

While Moxie is committed to these broader causes, Simmons emphasized that the boutique would only be here with the community's support.

"Moxie is truly a part of the community and wouldn't be here without the community," Simmons said. "In 2016 Moxie was one of the stores heavily damaged by the tornado, and her reopening was possible mostly due to a GoFundMe that supported owner Sarah

and staff through the closure."

At a time when the store was not able to operate, the community rallied around the business. In the future, Simmons hopes that Moxie will be able to continue to support women and children in the community and put on events for the town as they did before the pandemic.

"Overall, Moxie is made of the local and global community, fabulous clothing and home goods, a whole lot of love, and the beautiful ocean town that we love," Simmons said.

## Have you experienced Alice's Country House restaurant?

Most locals know that Alice's Country House has long been one of Tillamook County's best places to go for good, hearty food made from scratch and served in a casual and friendly, unique atmosphere. Perhaps it is the astonishing selection of lumberjack-sized breakfasts including corned beef hash and eggs, steak and eggs, pork chops and eggs, griddle cakes, omelets or countless other start-your-day fare that attracts "regulars". Or it may be the terrific burger selection and throwback diner lunches like hot turkey or beef sandwiches, steak sandwich, oyster burger, chicken sandwiches, Rueben, French dip or club. I'm just scratching the surface here. Since when have you seen liver and onions on a menu? Or how about a good selection of fettuccines, steaks, prime rib (Saturday nights), seafood dinners, specialty wraps and salads?



Photo by Haylee Burgett



Alice's Country House



Co-owner Ron Anderson and Haylee Burgett Photo by Katherine Mace

Never fear! All of this great food is still here to enjoy at Alice's. And to top it off, there are the homemade cinnamon rolls, cakes, pies (by the slice or whole pie) and cookies. A children's menu is also available. All of the recipes have been developed by owners Alice and Ron Anderson over the years. They are both still very involved in the daily operations of the restaurant.

Do you seek out authentic Oregon dining experiences? If so, Alice's Country House near milepost 8 on Highway 6 may tickle your fancy if you have not been there. It's well worth the drive out. Alice's is the only restaurant on the west side of the Coast Range summit, a blue building with old fashioned multi-paned style windows in white trim and a vintage sign on top that shines bright at night advertising "homestyle cookin."

When the Anderson's first purchased the property in 1980, the establishment featured a small restaurant that sat 30 people and there was a tavern. Build as part of a cabin-style lodging designation get-away in the 1930s prior to completion of Highway 6, the business was originally called Shank-Ri-La. For Alice and Ron as young parents with five children, it became a family operation for several years, then they sold the property. Or, at least they thought so. The deal fell through and it landed back in their laps. Accepting their fate, they moved forward, but Alice did not want to reopen the tavern. She had always preferred cooking and sharing her food with the public and so the family decided to focus on that part of the business. They began to expand the restaurant. Over the years it grew to include the classic diner section on the west end of the building

with a small dining room sandwiched between there and a larger open dining room at the east end of the building. There is also an outdoor deck dining area.

Years ago, in keeping with the forested setting in the Coast Range foothills close to the Wilson River, Alice began to decorate the restaurant with a collection of old logging tools she had inherited from her parents. Over time, customers added to it. The collection expanded beyond logging artifacts to include historical regional photography, paintings and collectibles of all kinds including antique kitchen and farm items, hunting and fishing gear, musical instruments, taxidermy, antique furniture and on and on. Today Alice's has become much more than a place to eat, it is filled with hundreds of artifacts from early Northwest Oregon history for clientele to explore and wonder at.

In the nostalgic diner area at the west end of Alice's there is an old-time counter with stools near a pass-through window from the kitchen to the waitstaff station where a filled pot of hot coffee awaits the next customer. From here, one can see the cooks working and watch your meal land under the heat lamp in the window after preparation. There are also three tables in this area and a handcrafted bench featuring a carved fish where customers can wait for to-go orders. Alice's classic blue coffee mugs are for sale, as are wine and beer glasses, sweatshirts and other memorabilia. It's here you will find the house baked items and a selection of



Owner Alice Anderson—still making fresh apple pies at age 77 Photo by Haylee Burgett



Tillamook ice cream. From walls to ceiling, vintage artifacts abound.

The smaller dining room is more intimate. Tables are nestled in next to displays of historical items, again from floor to ceiling. The large dining room on the east end has an open feeling with larger tables available for special gatherings. Visual points of interest include a chrome plated antique wood cookstove, a young stuffed bear and a beaver. There is also a book exchange shelf here for customers.

There is much more to learn about Alice's Country House. For example, special holiday meals are available year-round to preorder for take-out, or come inside to dine. They also have dinner specials Sunday-Thursday beginning at 4 p.m. A blue meal punch card is available and, when it is full, customers get a free one. To learn more about Alice's find them on facebook. Trip Advisor, or just come visit: 17345 Wilson River Hwy, Tillamook, (503) 842-7927. Story by Katherine Mace

## Sixty-five years later, Nehalem Lumber stays in the family



Nehalem Lumber's store front, courtesy of the Nehalem Lumber Facebook Page.

Will Lohre Country Media

Sixty-five years ago, Eugene Stockton moved from Portland to the coast and bought a small retail yard. Now, Nehalem Lumber is in its third generation as a family business. Lance Stockton is happy to be carrying on the work his grandfather started with the help of his sister Michelle Chestnut. Lance began working with his father, Dale Stockton, at Nehalem Lumber when he graduated college in 1980.

"Back in '80, when I got out of college, I came to work here too, and I've been here ever since, and now my sister and I run it, so it's been a family business now for 65 years," Lance Stockton said.

Nehalem Lumber is a

retail yard, meaning they sell building materials to contractors and "do it yourselfers." Much of their inventory comes from wholesalers outside of Portland. Some of the supplies and services they offer are framing packages, roof

packages, doors, windows, molding, gardening supplies, and decks.

With so many people at home during the pandemic, the demand for home improvement materials remained steady. Lance Stockton was happy to report that demand for their materials has been constant, and the community has helped bolster the business.

"We feel very fortunate in that we're as busy as we are," Lance Stockton said. "What I like is that, being in a small town, we've got a good clientele base, too, you know. We know our

customers, we've known them for years, and that makes a big difference."

For the Stocktons, being ingrained in the community is something that is passed down from one generation to the next.

"Grandpa and dad instilled in all of us, too, that if you're going to be in a community, you are going to be part of it," Lance Stockton said.

According to Lance Stockton, volunteering within the community is essential to their family, whether it's the fire department or supporting the city government. Being a part of the community is important for Nehalem Lumber, and they credit the community for its continued support.

"We really don't do hardly any advertising; we're established, we've been here long enough, the community knows us, and that helps a lot," Lance Stockton said.

Located in the center of Nehalem, off Highway 101, Nehalem Lumber is, as it has been for 65 years, a place to go for materials on any home improvement project.

## How consumers can help small businesses grow and thrive

Small businesses continue to be the backbone of the North American business community. According to the career resource Zippia, there are 33.2 million small businesses in the United States. Those organizations employ around 62 million people.

Despite the prevalence of small businesses and the abundance of people willing to become entrepreneurs, 20 percent of these firms fail within the first year, and only 55 percent survive five years or more, says Zippia. The COVID-19 pandemic was particularly harsh on small businesses. However, many of them survived through digitization that they plan to continue to utilize even when the pandemic is long gone.

Maintaining a small business through economic

highs and lows and other issues often comes down to customer involvement. Consumers are the driving forces behind the success of small businesses. Here are some effective ways for consumers to help small businesses grow.

• Shop local. The "Shop Local" movement has been around for awhile but remains as relevant as ever. Shopping local means becoming repeat patrons at the independent businesses that comprise Main Street as opposed to the chain stores that dominate strip malls.

• Share on social. Social media can be a great way to spread the word about businesses you like and point out particular examples why you shop there. Utilizing social media platforms to highlight the positive attributes of a business can help that business grow.

• Call direct for take-out orders. Those ubiquitous third-party food delivery services may be convenient, but businesses have to share the profit from your purchase with the delivery service, cutting into their bottom lines. Pick up your order or rely on the restaurants' own delivery teams.

• Engage with the business online. Complicated algorithms and other factors determine how a business' website or social media page gets seen by the public. You can help things along by liking pages, visiting the website frequently and sharing any posts.

• Speak about a business in person. When out and about, whether you're dining with friends or chatting with a stranger, try to push and recommend businesses you support. If someone compliments your lawn, shoes or haircut, mention the businesses that did the work or sold you the products.

• Suggest opportunities for exposure. If you know about a school or organization looking for vendors, make the suggestion to a small business you use frequently. They may get new customers from participating in the event.

Small businesses are driving forces in the economy. Consumers can do their part to keep them thriving and profitable.

#### MILESTONES 2023

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Publisher: Joe Warren • Graphic Design: Stephania Baumgart

## Tommie's Cleaners has been cleaning and pressing since 1957 in Tillamook with roots back to 1925

#### **Joe Warren** jwarren@countrymedia.net

Priscilla and Gary Thompson bought Tommie's Cleaners in 1983 from Gary's father, Robert Guy Thompson who owned the business since 1957. Robert bought the cleaners from the Reynolds, formally called Reynold's Cleaners and Dyers, which was started in 1925.

Robert was in the Navy and in charge of all the laundry and cleaning at the Air Base in Tillamook, so it was a natural progression for him when the business came up for sale. Since everyone in the military gets labeled with a nickname, and his was 'Tommie,' Robert decided to call the business after the name given him by his peers in the Navy.

Priscilla graduated in 1971 from Tillamook High School and worked for her father-in-law at the cleaners doing alterations for JC Penny Co. and other duties, she also worked at the Dairy Queen as a car hop. Gary was working for the Tillamook County Roads Dept.

In 1983 Robert wanted to retire and he sold the business to Gary and Priscilla keeping it in the family for the next phase.

Tommie's cleaners has seen a lot of change over the years, with new technology and cleaner for



The Reynolds who started the business in 1925 at the same location it sits today. Photo provided

the environment methods used in the process.

In the 1990s Priscilla added machines and processes that has won her awards from the DEQ and EPA. Priscilla said she, installed a new, environmentally conscious dry cleaning machine that is a closed system. The clothes go in dry and come out dry, she said, so the chemicals are never vented to the air. It was a \$74,000 investment at the time.

Over time, Priscilla



Priscilla Thompson in her shop on 4th street in Tillamook. Photo by Joe Warren

has added state of the art sewing machines to help on the alterations side, new ironing machines. She can clean just about anything. She has large and small machine and offers traditional clothes washing in her large and smaller machines by the pound. Priscilla will also preserve your wedding dress, so it stays nice for generations.

Priscilla is now 71 years old and still going strong. She said she did \$14,000 dollars worth of alterations last year. Priscilla has three employees, including her granddaughter Mekenzie, who she says she is steering her toward college instead of taking over the business. Priscilla and Gary still attend industry shows all over the U.S. to keep up on the latest and greatest in the business. Recently they attended a show in Atlanta GA and came back with a new spotting board and a new blindstitch machine. All adding better services to the business and making the process more efficient.

"It's hard work," Priscilla said. "It's not for everyone."

Since Gary and Priscilla's daughter and son have successful careers, they are not interested in taking over the business.

There are no signs of Priscilla slowing down anytime soon. She has the only dry cleaners from Astoria to Lincoln City with Hillsboro being the next closest, so she has a large customer base. Priscilla said she would entertain selling the business to the right person, and would even work a year or two training them on the ins and outs if needed.

The business is open from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday but she said, 98 percent of the time you can fined her there working and catching up most Saturdays.

Tommie's Cleaners is located at 1111 Fourth Street in Tillamook. They also offer pick up and delivery in Tillamook. You can reach Priscilla at 503-842-2301.

A Proud Beginning



The first message from the Editor in the first issue of the Tillamook Headlight, June 8, 1888:

o our patrons: After some four weeks of extensive delay we are enabled to present to the people of Tillamook county the first paper printed within her borders. The Tillamook Headlight is here as a permanent fixture, and its future developments and success will depend largely on the liberality of patronage from the citizens whose cause it has undertaken to espouse. We will, as time advances, enlarge our paper to meet the demand of business which is sure to follow the rapid immigration now heading for Tillamook county – sturdy farmers, solid business men and capitalists who are seeking to enhance their wealth by proper investments in a county of great promises. For the years past and gone Tillamook has remained dormant, dependent upon

outside people to herald its wealth and its worth, which, to say the least is unknown and untold, but now, as the Headlight grows older, and becomes better acquainted, the county possesses no merit but which shall be sung in tones of echoed splendor until the reverberation shall be daught [sic] up in the most nethermost parts of the earth, and the name become synonymous to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. We bespeak a liberal, open hearted patronage, and the greater liberality bestowed the greater benefits will be accrued. Roll in your subscriptions – your money – your aid - counsel and your well wishes, and the Headlight will have achieved its greatest aim and object.

Respectfully, C.E. Wilson & Co.

"Be honest, be just, and fear not. Hew to the line, and let the chips fall where they may."

- Tillamook Headlight, 1888



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Headlight Herald

## Ready for business

Te are yet unknown, but be assured when our resources are once known the flood gates of immigration will be opened, the hidden wealth unearthed, and Tillamook will be looked upon as the wonder of wonders. We have the climate, advantages and resources to make us what no other county in Oregon can make, and it but wants the outside world to know of the advantages untold when thousands

will knock at our doors for admission and acceptance into the great family of Tillamook.

We shall strive to give you all the news, county and general, and in order to do this it behooves every citizen to send us the news from his respective locality. In this manner the reputation of the Headlight can be built up until it can be sought with greater zeal than the buried wealth in the vaults of the nation's treasury.

Very truly, J.B. Edwards, Editor.



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